



10 Ways You Can Fight Air Pollution

1. Leave your car at home. Carpool, take public transportation or ride a bicycle to your destination. A typical car emits about 10,730 pounds of air pollution a year and a typical sport utility vehicle or light truck emits almost 17,900 pounds of pollution.
2. Prevent air pollution. Don't idle the car in parking lots or the drive through. Don't be a speed demon. You can improve your gas mileage about 15 percent by driving at 55 mph rather than 65 mph.
3. Change the fuel filter on your car as recommended by the manufacturer. Cleaner fuel = cleaner emissions.
4. When you replace light bulbs, use energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs, which use about 1/3 of the energy and last longer.
5. Use manufactured firelogs instead of wood in your fireplace. Manufactured firelogs cause about 70% less particulate pollution than well-seasoned wood. Or, convert your wood-burning fireplace to vented natural gas logs. This will greatly reduce particulate pollution.
6. Cut your utility bills by purchasing energy-efficient appliances, fixtures and other electronic products. The average home creates more air pollution than the average car. You can reduce your energy use by up to 40 percent by purchasing items displaying the ENERGY STAR label.
7. Turn off electric appliances and lights when they are not in use and only run the dishwasher and washing machines when they are full. The United States consists of four percent of the world's population, yet creates 25 percent of all carbon dioxide emissions. Conserving energy will reduce the United States contribution to global warming.
8. Wait until the evening to get gas and to mow the lawn. This helps prevent ground level ozone formation.
9. Seal, repair or reconnect the air ducts in your home. The average home loses up to 30% of its warm or cool air through leaks in the ductwork.
10. Compost organic trash, leaves and grass clippings instead of burning them. Composting five pounds of leaves will prevent one pound of air pollution and you'll get great soil free!